

Serial Number 10/761,193

REMARKS

Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 6, indicated as allowable in item 10 on page 16 of the Official Action, and also to include the limitations of intervening claims 2-4. Claims 2-9 have accordingly been canceled, and claims 10 and 11 amended to depend from claim 1 rather than canceled claim 6. All of the claims now include subject matter indicated as allowable.

Because the amendments merely combine claims to include subject matter indicated as allowable, it is respectfully submitted that the amendments do not raise new issues, or introduce "new matter." Entry and consideration of the amendments is therefore believed to be appropriate.

The rejections under 35 USC §§102(b) and 103(a) have been rendered moot by the amendments.

Having thus overcome each of the rejections made in the Official Action, expedited passage of the application to issue is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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